

DRAFT
Meeting Minutes
Agency Fisheries Group
September 25, 1998
1:00pm to 5:00pm

Participants

Mike Fris, Jim White, Mike Thabault, Gary Stern, Pete Chadwick, Karl Halupka, Bruce Herbold, Ron Ott.

General Questions and Observations

- What protection measures do we want to flex and what protection base do we want to flex around?
- Should we add more flexibility or the greater assurance of the general protection of "X2"? i.e general ecosystem protection vs individual species protection?
- How are we going to reconcile that agencies are negotiating or advocating projects like ISDP, JPOD, etc that may be at odds with new paradigm of flex Ops with DNCT?
- The more flexibility we add in the system the more thorough the monitoring system has to be.
- Triggers (single or group) could apply at different seasons and/or hydrologic conditions.
- Preset curtailment triggers may give more assurances for all sides.

Areas where the Accord and DEFT scenario could be improved

Accord is generally lacking in the following areas:

- E/I ratios
- San Joaquin Salmon
- Fall and Winter run on Sacramento River
- Striped Bass fry in summer

1. San Joaquin River

- Too short should be Mar-June flow/export
- Export reductions and/or flow increases for approx 90 days
- Export reduction 3/15-6/15
- Triggered by the presence of San Joaquin salmon
- Reverse trigger 10days without finding salmon
- Once triggered would need a long block (period) to ensure that we cover run. Could have an un-trigger if density tapers off

2. Fall "E/T" ratios

- Spring run salmon should have equivalent protection as winter run
- Apply winter run criteria to spring run

- Should not apply the same "E/I" ratio Feb-Mar regardless of year type
 - In dryer years maybe < E/I
 - In wet years maybe > E/I
 - Exports rates could follow hydrology i.e. sliding scale for E/I depending on hydrology

4. Diverting 75% (DEFT in Aug & Sept) of the inflow is not healthy for fish
5. May want to set some minimum outflow when "X2" is not governing factor
6. Accord is insufficient to protect against entrainment in Feb-May period

Spring run yearlings

- Could use coded wire tag fish at Georgina slough, DCC, elsewhere.
- Release
- Spring run monitoring plan
- DCC closure at first sign of spring run
- Export reduction (21 days unless flows very low)

San Joaquin fry

- Triggers - high flows , monitor effectiveness
- Screw traps at Mossdale

Delta Smelt

Triggers may include relationships to locations such as:

- South Delta/Bacon
- Central Delta/Chipps
- Ratio to Zones in the Delta
- Could be function of inflow/outflow/X2/San Joaquin Flow
- Minimum 28 days of protection